

1882-036 Chancery Causes: Balus Lorton vs. Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth Laughon  
Lee Co.

Stewart, Davis, Willoughby, Ely

CA-DIVORCE  
T-VICES



To the Honorable John A. Kelly Judge of the  
Circuit Court of Lee County Virginia  
Your orator Balus Lorton, humbly  
complaining sheweth unto your Honor  
that on the                      day of                      18-  
he intermarried with one Elizabeth  
Vaughn, with whom he lived for only  
a brief period of time, - His said did  
not remain with him long enough to assume  
his name but is to the present time known  
as "Elizabeth Vaughn" she has acquired local  
notoriety in the annals of crime, being  
a notorious drunkard, prostitute and vile  
woman, frequenting the worst cesspools of  
vice and immorality, not unfrequently in jail,  
from which she has quite recently been  
discharged, and since which she has again  
set out on her hard-earned way. Your orator  
alleges that she has been guilty of various &  
other acts of adultery, since which he has  
refused to recognize her as a wife or even  
an acquaintance - He alleges that she is wholly  
lacking in virtue & decency. His object is therefore  
is to a decree rendering annulling the bonds  
of matrimony now existing between him and  
his said wife, and for ever releasing him  
from his marital relations. And for all aforesaid  
Justice & General relief may supra. - see &c.

A. L. Polkmore



H. Court. \$6.38  
Dr. 5.00  
Cr 15.00  
M. Court \$26.38

A.L.P.

Balus Lorton

3 O. Biel

Elizabeth Lorton alias  
Elizabeth Vaughn.

1882. Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> Or. Dub.  
" " Rules Sp. not ex.  
" Mr. Conts for Or Dub.  
" Apr Rules Or. pub. complt &  
" set for hearing by plffs.

1882. August Term  
Decree final



Balus Lorton. . . . . Plff

against

Elizabeth Lorton alias

Elizabeth Vaughn

Def

} Indy

This

Cause came on to be heard upon  
the bill of the, order of publication  
duly posted & published and the depositions  
of witnesses, and arguments of  
Counsel, on consideration of which  
and for reasons appearing to the Court  
It is adjudged ordered and de-  
cided, that the bonds of matri-  
mony heretofore existing between  
the plff and defendant, be and  
they are hereby dissolved, annulled  
and set aside, and the plff has leave  
to marry again. - But the Court orders  
and decrees that the defendant shall  
not again marry, and that she pay  
to the plff his costs in this suit expen-  
ded and the Cause ~~is continued~~ is  
stricken from the docket.



Bolus Sorters.

or { Decennial

Elizabeth Sorters

Elizabeth Vaughn

Aug. 5. 1882

Entered Page 262

J. H. Hyatt  
Clerk

Enter duplicate

Sept. 2<sup>o</sup> 1882

J. H. K.



Balis Lorton

Peff

vs

In Chancery.

Elizabeth Lorton alias Vaughan Deft

The deposition of Elkanah Stewart Franklin Davis & others taken on the oath of the Peff on the 16th day of March 1882 before the undersigned Commissioner to be read as evidence in the above styled Cause.

The said Stewart being duly sworn deposes & Says First questioned by the Peff.

You will please state how long you have been acquainted with the defendant Elizabeth Lorton alias Vaughan and during the time of your acquaintance with her, what has been her general character? and do you know the fact that she has been guilty of the crime of adultery since she has been the wife of the Peff and if so please state as near as you can when it was that she was guilty of that act the last time, and if more than once please state the number of times as near as you can.

Answer I have been acquainted with the defendant some three or four years. During all that time her character has been that of a regular road walker, or regular pad, or that of a common whore frequenting houses of ill fame. I do not know when she married the Peff. but I do know the fact that she has often had carnal and sexual intercourse with the opposite sex since I have known her. And the last act of that kind of which I have knowledge, was about



one year ago as well as I remember, but as to the number of times I cannot state, but I know of quite a number of such acts.

And further this witness saith not.

Elkanah <sup>his</sup> Stewart.

The said Franklin Davis being duly sworn deposes & says.

I have known the defendant Elizabeth Lorton, alias Vaughan for the last 8 years. And during all that time I regarded her as a loose and base woman a regular road find, and a common whore, I do not know when she was married to the Peff, but since I have known her, I know the fact that she has often had sexual intercourse with others than the plaintiff and as well as I now remember the last time she had such illicit intercourse was in the summer of 1880. the exact date I cannot now state. but at the time of this last act of that sort of which I have knowledge she then claimed to be a married woman, and if she was in fact married at that time, then I know the fact that since her marriage, she has been guilty of the crime of adultery.

And further this witness saith not.

Franklin Davis

Virginia Lee County Court

The foregoing depositions of Elkanah Stewart & Franklin Davis were taken before me. Sworn to and subscribed by them respectively.

Henry J. Morgan Clerk



Balis Lorton

vs.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Deaso,

Elizabeth Lorton

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Filed Aug. 1882

J. A. Hyatt  
Clerk



The deposition of Charles Willoughby  
and Thomas J. Ely, taken in the  
Clerks office of the Circuit Court of  
Lee County Virginia, and which are  
intended to be read as evidence  
on behalf of Balus Lorton, in  
a suit in Chancery now pending  
in the Circuit Court of Lee County  
in which said suit, said Lorton  
is plaintiff and Elizabeth Lorton  
alias Elizabeth Vaughn is defendant,

Charles Willoughby a witness of lawful  
age being first duly sworn deposes  
and says -

Question by Plffs Counsel.

Are you acquainted with Elizabeth  
Lorton alias Elizabeth Vaughn, if so  
for how long, and how long have you  
known of her roaming over the County  
and what is her Character?

Ans - I have known the Deft. in the  
above styled Cause for something  
more than 2 years, during which  
time she has not lived with the  
plff, to my knowledge, nor  
with any other person, as husb-  
and, but has been a notorious



prostitute, associating with divers individuals, twice in Jonesville Jail during the time, and one of the most public and vicious Characters

And further this deponent saith not:  
Charles Willoughby

Thos J. Ely an other witness of lawful age being duly sworn deposes and says—

Question by plffs Counsel,

Are you acquainted with Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth Vaughn, if so how long?

Ans I have been acquainted with the said Elizabeth Vaughn about two years, & during the time have had her under my charge as Jailor for Lee County Va twice,

2<sup>d</sup> Question—What do you know of her Character.

Ans I know that she is a woman of bad Character and a notorious prostitute, and during the time I have known her, she has been strolling over the Country, engaging



in all parts of Lenoir County, North  
Carolina, this report will not.

Thomas J. Ely

Virginia

For County Court:

I, John A. Wyatt, a Justice of the Peace in  
Lenoir County, for the County Court, do  
do certify that the foregoing depo-  
sition were duly taken, sworn to  
and subscribed before me, at the time  
and place mentioned herein, and  
under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
March 1882. J. A. Wyatt

County Clerk



Babus Lorton  
W. 3/4 N. 1/4 Sec. 10 T. 10 N. R. 10 E.  
Elizabeth Lorton & Co. Messrs.

Filed March 27 1872

J. H. Syrett  
Recorder



Virginia

Lee County, To wit:

This day Thos. S. Ely personally  
appeared before me in my County  
and made oath in due form, that  
to the best of knowledge and belief  
Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth  
Vaughn is a now resident of  
this State of Virginia, seen  
under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> Feby  
1882.

J. A. Hyatt Clerk



Balus. Lorton

pro Affidavit

Elizabeth Lorton alias

Vaughn



Virginia

In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit  
Court of Lee County February 20 1882

Walus Lorton

Plff.

against

Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth Vaughan Def.

In Chancery

The object of this bill is to obtain a divorce  
from the bonds of matrimony now existing between  
the plaintiff and the defendant.

And it appearing from an affidavit filed  
in this cause that the defendant is a non-  
resident of the State of Virginia, it is ordered  
that she appear here within one month after due  
publication of this order, to do what is  
necessary to protect her interest in this  
suit.

Lest. J. A. Hyatt

Clerk

I Certify that I posted a copy of  
the above order on the 27 day of  
Febry 1882, that being Court day

J. A. Hyatt

Clerk



Valus Lorton  
vs <sup>3</sup> Ord. Pub.  
Elizabeth Lorton alias Vaupe.

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The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of Lee County - - - Greeting:

We Command you to Summon

*Elizabeth Barton alias Elizabeth*  
*Vaughn.*

To appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Lee, at the Court-House, on the first Monday in  
*February* next, being rule day to answer a bill in Chancery, exhibited in our said Court against

*hers* by

*James Barton*

And have then there this writ. Witness JOHN A. G. HYATT Clerk of our said court at the Court-House  
this *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *January* 188*2*, in the *106* year of the Commonwealth.

*J. A. G. Hyatt* CLERK.

*A Copy Teste:*  
*J. A. G. Hyatt Clerk*



For Elizabeth Norton alias  
Elizabeth Vaughan

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of Lee County - - - Greeting:

We Command you to Summon

*Vaughn.*

*Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth*

To appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Lee, at the Court-House, on the first Monday in

*February* next, being rule day to answer a bill in Chancery, exhibited in our said Court against

*her* by

*Balus Lorton*

And have then there this writ. Witness JOHN A. G. HYATT Clerk of our said court at the Court-House

this *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *January* 1882; in the *106* year of the Commonwealth.

*J. A. G. Hyatt* CLERK.



Valus Cartou  
US 3 Spain Chcy

Elizabeth Lorton  
alias Elizabeth Vaughn

Lo February Rules 1882

Not Executed the

defendant not

being forced

Feb 8 1882

Thos. S. Cely

S. L. C.



# THE SENTINEL

DEMOCRATIC—SUBSCRIPTION, ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

FRED. R. STICKLEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

Jonesville, Va., \_\_\_\_\_, 1882.

**VIRGINIA:** In the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Lee County, February 20, 1882.

Bates Lorton, Plff., vs. Elizabeth Lorton alias Elizabeth Vaughan, Deft.—In Chancery.

The object of this bill, is to obtain a divorce from the bonds of matrimony now existing between the plaintiff and the defendant. And it appearing from an affidavit filed in the case that the defendant is a non-resident of this State, it is ordered that she appear here within one month after due publication of the order and do what is necessary to protect her interest in this suit. A copy—test:

Feb 24-4

J. A. G. HYATT, Clerk.

Printers' Fee \$5.00

I hereby Certify  
that a Chancery Order of which  
the ~~attached~~ <sup>annexed</sup> is a copy was printed  
ed four successive weeks in  
the "Lee County Sentinel" a weekly  
Newspaper published in the  
town of Jonesville Lee County  
Virginia Publication ending  
March 24<sup>th</sup> 1882

F. R. Stickley  
Printer



Pure Certificate

Serton

is by Leahy

Serton